



Castle Acre Newsletter for week ending 8th March 2024

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Executive Headteacher: Mrs Anne Neary
Web: www.narvalleyfederation.co.uk

Dear Parents,

Just as we thought the rain would never end, the sunshine has appeared! It has improved everyone's moods greatly and there are even more smiles than normal.

What a great day we had for World Book Day. For the first time in 23 years, we started a day early with a visit from Chris William Hill on Wednesday afternoon. Apparently he was hilarious and I could hear the laughter from the hall. Yesterday, we had a variety of book characters enter our building from Ron Weasley to an Oompa Loompa to a rabbit and even a crayon! The children completed many different activities including making their character out of vegetables. A big congratulations to everyone for their efforts in helping us to highlight the importance of reading.

Today we welcomed James Wild (our local MP) into our school. He was taken for a tour by our Head Pupil team and then interrogated by the School Council. My favourite question he asked was 'If you were not an MP, what would be your dream job?' His reply was that he would like to be a journalist. Our children were fabulous and told him all about our school and what it was like to come here. So a visit to the King, a visit from an MP....who is next we wonder!

Upcoming Events this week

See Diary Dates for details.....

Mon 11th - After school Gymnastics Club with Premier Education.

Wed 13th - After School Multi-Skills Club (Y3 - 6) with ICS.

Thursday 14th - After School Multi-Skills Club (Rec - Y1) with ICS.

Friday 15th - Comic Relief - Red Nose Day, pupils are invited to come to school in uniform but wear something red and bring a donation for Comic Relief

Tuck Shop - Wednesday and Friday morning break - 40p

Reminders and Information.....

Please make sure that your child is wearing the correct uniform for school, including their PE kits and shoes. We all have a dress code we have to follow and it is important to show that they belong. We, of course, know that things happen sometimes but this should be the exception. Do come and speak to us if you have any queries about this. Please note that the hoodies are for PE and trips or when it is particularly cold on top of a jumper, and not an alternative to a jumper, thank you.

Please make sure your child has their PE kit in from Monday to Friday.

March 15th - Comic Relief -for a donation children can wear their uniform and one or more items of red including a nose!. This year, the event will focus on supporting those in need during the current living crisis, focusing on issues like lack of food and homelessness.

Don't forget **Before School Care** is available Monday to Friday from 8am to 8.40am at £2 per session. **After School Care** is available Monday to Friday 3.10pm to 4.30pm at £6 per session. Bookings to be made through the school office.

Attendance Awards w/e 8/3/2024

Class	%	
Rowan	94.29	
Whitebeam	87.33	
Oak	94.78	

Oak narrowly higher attendance than Rowan this week. Hopefully there will be less illness around for the remainder of the term!

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



3 days lost



minutes late per day



6.5 days lost



minutes late per day

LOST MINUTES = LOST LEARNING!

10 days lost



minutes late per day

13 days lost



minutes late per day

EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS!

19 days lost EACH YEAR!



minutes late per day

Every school day counts BUT every minute is equally important!



AWARDS

The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies

Rowan Class

Whitebeam Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Arly	For trying her best to read new sounds and words
Writer of the week 	Indy	For trying his best to write new words and form his letters correctly.
Mathematician of the week	Tia	for always trying her best in maths and positively contributing to class discussions
Shining Light	Isla B Gracie-Mae Harry	Always trying her best in every subject and persevering when it i Settling into Rowan class and making new friends Always tring his best in everything he does
Tackling Tables 		
Reads at home 		

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Max	for consistently reading at home
Writer of the week 	Tyler	for the great improvement in his handwriting
Mathematician of the week	Elarni	for working well with a partner during a problem solving challenge
Shining Light	Lola Holly	for being a kind friend and sharing things with them for demonstrating responsibility as part of the School Council
Tackling Tables 		
Reads at home	Max	Gold badge for 100 reads





AWARDS



The Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies



Oak Class

Award	Goes to...	For.....
Reader of the week	Roxanne	putting in lots of effort and creating a fantastic book cover during World Book Day
Writer of the week	Mason	great improvement in handwriting and presentation
Mathematician of the week	Aleashia	persevering when working with fractions
Shining Light Letting your light shine	Esther Lola	demonstrating all our school values this week, showing great attitude. showing great empathy, understanding and kindness
Tackling Tables	None this week	
Reads at home	Emma	Red star for 25 reads

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Help with online safety::



The CEOP website, run by the National Crime Prevention agency, gives helpful advice about when and how to report your concern.

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Get-help/Reporting-an-incident/>



See these links for further information, games and tips:

https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/4_7/
https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/
<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>



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Safeguarding.....

County Lines:

Criminals target vulnerable children, often by using other children to befriend them, and using them to hold, store and move drugs between counties.

Signs to watch out for include:

- persistent unexplained truancy - unexplained acquisition of money, clothes, shoes or mobile phone
- excessive receipt of texts or phone calls
- new relationships with older, controlling individuals
- leaving home or care without explanation
- suspicion of self-harm, physical assault or unexplained injuries
- parental concerns
- significant decline in performance in school
- significant change in emotional wellbeing

You may think that something like County lines wouldn't happen here or wouldn't affect your child, but it happened to one of our children some years ago, who was approached by someone they knew and asked to look after and sell a parcel. Luckily, the child was smart enough to tell both their Mum and school about it.

You can find more information on the flier sent out from school and by searching 'Action for Children - County Lines'

Message from the Executive Headteacher....



Thank you to the 12 families who filled in our Parents' Carers' Survey, we really appreciate it. Mrs Spaul and I pay careful attention to it and we share it with Governors and our Trust.

Strengths were that most questions were answered with agree or strongly agree, which is great, as this is what we want for our children.

Our actions:

Some families would like to know more about what their child is learning. An excellent suggestion was that we could more effectively at sharing specific methods for English and Maths. We will put together some booklets to support with this. We will also seek sponsorship for tablets and cameras that work and allow us to upload to Class Dojo and will do so twice a week. If anyone knows of any companies that would support with this, please let us know.

Finally just an update that following the children's feedback that they would like more equipment, the Friends have a list from school of exciting pieces of play equipment that we could purchase, and also ICS, our fab sports coaches, are putting together a list of all equipment that we need for PE and we will be purchasing those as soon as we receive that list and the order from the Friends! Thank you to our lovely Friends for their support.

Friends of Castle Acre School (FOCAS).....

We would love to hear from any Parents/Carers who are interested in joining Friends as we are currently a very small group of volunteers. Please just speak with me on the gate or phone me on: 07825 229345, Libby Firth (Chair), thank you.

The next large fundraiser we have planned is the Annual Duck Race in the summer term.

Prayer for the Week....



Dear Lord,

Thank you for the things around us. Help us to hope for things we love or need.

Amen

By Lola G

Thank you as always for your support and partnership,

Head of School
Castle Acre C of E Primary Academy

Executive Headteacher
Nar Valley Federation of Church Academies
Castle Acre, Narborough and Sporle C of E Primary Academy